THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) In 1997 India had notified 2714 tariff lines to the WTO, imports of which were subject to quantitative restrictions for the balance of payment reasons. A plan for phased removal of these restrictions was also negotiated in 1997, which was revised in view of India's agreement with USA in December, 1999. In view of these commitments import restrictions on 714 tariff lines were removed on 31-03-2000. Some of these tariff lines pertain to consumer goods also.

All imports in the country are subject to applicable rates of customs duties and also subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications and environmental safety norms as applicable to domestically produced goods. This should provide adequate protection to the domestic industry.

The imports are being closely monitored and government would strive to ensure through appropriate use of tariff mechanism that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic industry.

To provide protection against dumping of foreign goods, the Directorate of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties, is already functioning in the Ministry of Commerce and suitable steps are being taken by the Directorate. In case of serious injury to the domestic market, safeguard duty can be imposed by the Safeguard Directorate in Ministry of Finance.

Industrialisation in U.P.

4416. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industrial units set up in private/public sector during the last three years and till date, in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) the amount of capital investment made by these undertakings during this period; and

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The number of industrial units set up in

the private/public sector in the non-SSI segment and investment therein during the last three years and till date are as follows :

	Number	Investment (Rs. Cr.)
For last three years (From 1997 to 1999)	119	7,135
From 1-8-91 to 31-3-2000	413	18,447

(c) With the introduction of the New Industrial Policy in July 1991, investment decisions have been left to the entrepreneurs based on their commercial perception, which in turn is based on the initiatives taken by the State Governments/Union Territories in the creation of conducive economic environment by way of providing basic infrastructure facilities and other incentives. Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government through various Central Schemes and incentives.

Participation of Tobacco Board in W.H.O. discussions

4417. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tobacco Board held any discussions with the Health Ministry on participation in W.H.O. discussions in Geneva;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any representative of the Tobacco Board or the Ministry went as a delegate to the W.H.O. meeting in Geneva; and

(d) if so, the details of the proceedings ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.